



ABSTRACT

In the 2007-2008 VEAMOS survey there were several strong indications that bullying and fighting and general lack of respect were concerns of students, parents and faculty.

The counselors created the theme “R2=Respect and Responsibility”. It was created to be an umbrella theme to incorporate character development to learn respect of self, family, community, the school building, and everyone around them. As they learned about and developed self respect, the negative behaviors improve.

The counselors visited every classroom including all grades and had a role play and discussion regarding the theme. Each student received a theme pencil to reinforce the theme throughout the year. A banner was designed and hung in the school commons area for all students to see throughout the year.

Counselors reinforced these concepts in other classroom presentations, in individual meetings with students, on the counseling website and in the school newsletter throughout the year.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- **Introduction**

We wanted to determine if bullying had improved over the course of the year.

- **Participants**

- All 9th grade students

- **Method**

Counselors met with and conducted a Pre-survey at the beginning of the year. As a result of this survey they gave presentations on “R2=Respect and Responsibility” in all classes, handed out theme pencils and hung a banner in the commons area to reinforce what had been taught. At the end of the year a follow-up survey was conducted to estimate the effects the presentations had on the students’ behavior.

RESULTS

Fall Student Survey Results:

1. What is your greatest concern about school:

Grades: 51% Credits 20% Too much Homework: 13% Personal and Peers (Bullying and fighting): 13%

2. Do you feel comfortable asking your teachers, counselors or administrators for help?

Yes: 66%

Sometimes: 18%

No: 16%

3. If you could improve anything about Wasatch Junior High this year, what would it be?

Facilities: 36%

Teachers and Staff: 13%

Personal and Peers: 12%

Lunch: 11%

School Activities: 9%

Homework and courses: 9%

School Schedule: 8% School Rules: 3%

Spring Follow-up Survey Results:

1. The top student concern from the 2007 VEAMOS was **bullying and fighting**. Has the situation improved, remained the same or gotten worse?

Improved: 41%

Remained the Same: 59%

Worse: 0%

(Of those who responded that the situation remained the same, 26% “didn’t notice anything” and 71% “didn’t see any bullying” at all)

2. Has there been an increase, has it remained the same, or has there been a decrease in **respectful behavior** in these specific areas:

Lunchroom:

Better: 31% Same: 47% Worse: 22%

Classroom:

Better: 23% Same: 53% Worse: 23%

With Peers:

Better: 25% Same: 62% Worse: 13%

Of those responding 3% said Cyber or text messages are disrespectful.

With Office Staff:

Better: 12% Same: 66% Worse: 10%

3. Do you feel like students behavior has improved, remained the same, or gotten worse in these specific areas:

Lunchroom:

Improved: 38% Same: 40% Worse: 22%

Classroom:

Improved: 28% Same: 45% Worse: 27%

DISCUSSION

The survey indicates there was an improvement in overall respectful behavior and bullying and fighting. We made great progress in developmental assets but we were handicapped this year because our central media broadcasting system is not operational to this point and our auditorium was not finished until April. We had planned some large group presentations through the central media broadcasting system and in the auditorium which were not available for our use. Next year we hope to have more options for presentations as the building continues to be completed.